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Globalization and interdependence: international migration and development

Report of the Second Committee*

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I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 22 (see A/67/439, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 29th and 38th meetings, on 15 November and 14 December 2012. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/67/SR.29 and 38).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/67/L.15 and Rev.1

2. At the 29th meeting, on 15 November, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" (A/C.2/67/L.15), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 61/208 of 20 December 2006, 63/225 of 19 December 2008 and 65/170 of 20 December 2010 on international migration and development, as well as its resolution 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, its resolutions 62/156 of 18 December 2007 and 64/166 of 18 December 2009 on the protection of migrants and its resolution 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development,

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbol A/67/439 and Add.1 and 2.

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"*Recalling also* the 2005 World Summit Outcome, its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, adopted on 24 December 2008,

"*Recalling further* its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

"*Recalling* the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document and follow-up,

"*Recalling also* the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development of 2012 and its outcome document entitled 'The future we want',

"*Recalling further* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,

"*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

"*Recalling* the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, and reiterating the call to Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority and the request to the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote and raise awareness of the Convention,

"*Recalling also* the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the eight fundamental Conventions of that Organization and the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session, as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development,

"*Recalling further* Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,

"*Bearing in mind* the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the 2006 high-level dialogue on international migration and development,

"*Acknowledging* that the 2006 high-level dialogue provided a useful opportunity to address constructively the issue of international migration and development and heightened awareness of the issue,

"*Reaffirming* the resolve to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and members of their families,

"*Bearing in mind* the obligations of States under international law, as applicable, to exercise due diligence to prevent crimes against migrants, including those perpetrated with racist or xenophobic motivations, to investigate such crimes and to punish the perpetrators and that not doing so violates, and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of, the human rights and fundamental freedoms of victims, and urging States to reinforce measures in this regard,

"*Acknowledging* the important and complex interrelationship between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits and challenges to the global community, and confirming the importance of including the matter in relevant debates and discussions held at the international level, including at the United Nations, in relation to development,

"*Recalling* that migrant workers are among the most vulnerable in the context of the financial and economic crisis and that remittances, which are significant private financial sources for households, have been negatively affected by rising unemployment and weak earnings growth among migrant workers in some countries of destination,

"*Noting with concern* that in many countries of destination international migrants are experiencing higher unemployment than non-migrants,

"*Recognizing* the contributions of young migrants to countries of origin and destination, and in that regard encouraging States to consider the specific circumstances and needs of young migrants,

"*Noting with concern* that the adverse impact, particularly on development, of the ongoing world financial and economic crisis has increased the risk of misperceiving the economic effects of migration as negative, and noting in this regard that national public planning should take account of the positive effects that migration has in the medium to long term,

"*Recognizing* that remittance flows constitute sources of private capital, complement domestic savings and are instrumental in improving the well-being of recipients,

"1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

"2. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to continue to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, in particular by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration;

"3. *Recognizes* the importance of renewing the political will to act cooperatively and constructively in addressing international migration, including regular and irregular migration, to address the challenges and opportunities of international migration in a balanced, coherent and comprehensive manner and

to promote respect for and protection of human rights in the development and implementation of policies regarding migration and development;

"4. *Emphasizes* that respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants is essential for reaping the benefits of international migration;

"5. *Expresses concern* about legislation adopted by some States that results in measures and practices that may restrict the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and reaffirms that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the human rights of migrants, as the rights of migrants must be respected at all times without any kind of discrimination;

"6. *Requests* all Member States, in accordance with their relevant international obligations and commitments, to promote cooperation at all levels in addressing the challenge of undocumented or irregular migration so as to foster a secure, regular and orderly process of migration;

"7. *Welcomes* the programmes that allow migrants to integrate fully into society, facilitate family reunification in accordance with the laws and specific criteria of each Member State and promote a harmonious, tolerant and respectful environment, and encourages host countries to take appropriate measures aimed at the full integration of long-term migrants staying legally in the country;

"8. *Recognizes* the need for Member States to continue considering the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means of maximizing the development benefits and minimizing the negative impacts, including by exploring ways to lower the transfer costs of remittances, garnering the active engagement of expatriates and fostering their involvement in promoting investment in countries of origin and entrepreneurship among non-migrants;

"9. *Reiterates* the need to consider how the migration of highly skilled persons and those with advanced education affects the development efforts of developing countries in order to address the negative impacts and optimize the potential benefits of such migration;

"10. *Calls upon* all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, including the Global Migration Group, within their respective mandates, to continue to address the issue of international migration and development, with a view to integrating migration issues, including gender and youth perspectives and cultural diversity, in a more coherent way, in the context of the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and with respect for human rights, as well as in the context of the elaboration of the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015;

"11. *Encourages* the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations to support developing countries in their efforts to

address migration issues within their respective development strategies in the context of the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

"12. *Decides* to convene, every three years, a high-level dialogue on migration and development starting in 2013;

"13. *Also decides* to hold a two-day high-level dialogue on migration and development on 3 and 4 October 2013, after the general debate of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, at United Nations Headquarters;

"14. *Further decides* that the organizational arrangements for the high-level dialogue shall be as follows:

"(a) The overall theme of the high-level dialogue on migration and development will be 'Identifying concrete measures that enhance the benefits of international migration, while reducing its costs, for countries of origin, transit and destination and migrants alike';

"(b) The high-level dialogue will consist of four plenary meetings and three interactive multi-stakeholder round tables:

"(i) Round table 1 will be held in the afternoon of the first day of the high-level dialogue;

"(ii) Round tables 2 and 3 will be held in the morning and afternoon of the second day of the high-level dialogue;

"(iii) Summaries of the deliberations of the three round-table sessions will be presented orally by the chairs of the round-table sessions during the concluding plenary meeting of the high-level dialogue with a particular focus on outcomes and follow-up by the United Nations system and Member States;

"(c) The themes for each of the three round tables will be as follows:

"(i) Round table 1 will focus on the effects of international migration on economic and social development, taking into account the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015;

"(ii) Round table 2 will focus on measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of all migrants and to prevent and combat smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, with particular reference to their effects on women and children;

"(iii) Round table 3 will focus on institutional coherence in addressing international migration;

"(d) The three round tables will be co-chaired by one representative from the North and one from the South, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly, with due regard for geographical balance, in consultation with regional groups;

"15. *Decides* that the participation in the high-level dialogue and its preparatory process will be in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

"16. *Invites* Member States and observers to participate in the high-level dialogue at the highest possible level;

"17. *Invites* the Holy See, in its capacity as observer State, Palestine, in its capacity as observer, and the European Union, in its capacity as observer, to participate in the high-level dialogue and its preparatory process;

"18. *Invites* relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, as well as the International Organization for Migration, to participate to the preparation of the high-level dialogue;

"19. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of relevant non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council who may participate in the high-level dialogue and to submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis in accordance with past practice;

"20. *Also invites* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of other relevant intergovernmental organizations and entities who may participate in the high-level dialogue, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical representation, and to submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration on a non-objection basis in accordance with past practice;

"21. *Decides* that the high-level dialogue shall result in an intergovernmentally negotiated outcome document, and requests the President of the General Assembly to convene informal consultations at an appropriate date in order to enable sufficient consideration and agreement by Member States prior to the high-level dialogue;

"22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive overview of studies and analyses on the multidimensional aspects of migration and development, including the effects of migration on economic and social development in developed and developing countries;

"23. *Invites* the regional commissions and their subregional offices, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system as well as the International Organization for Migration, to organize discussions to examine regional aspects of international migration and development and to provide inputs, in accordance with their respective mandates, to the preparatory process of the high-level dialogue;

"24. *Invites* Member States, through appropriate regional consultative processes and, as appropriate, other major initiatives in the field of international migration, including on international migration and development, to contribute to the high-level dialogue;

"25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled 'Globalization and interdependence', the sub-item entitled 'International migration and development';

"26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution."

3. At its 38th meeting, on 14 December, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" (A/C.2/67/L.15/Rev.1), submitted by Algeria on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of the revised draft resolution.

5. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Algeria, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, made a statement (see A/C.2/67/SR.38).

6. Also at the 38th meeting, the representative of Suriname, in his capacity as the facilitator of the revised draft resolution, orally corrected the draft resolution (see A/C.2/67/SR.38).

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/67/L.15/Rev.1, as orally corrected, by a recorded vote of 110 to 2, with 46 abstentions (see para. 10). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Canada, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

8. Before the vote, the representative of Algeria made a statement on behalf of the Group of 77 and China; statements in explanation of vote were made before the vote by the representatives of the United States of America, Cyprus (on behalf of the European Union) and China (see A/C.2/67/SR.38).

9. After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, the United Republic of Tanzania, Switzerland and Norway; a statement after the vote was made by the representative of Algeria on behalf of the Group of 77 and China (see A/C.2/67/SR.38).

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/208 of 23 December 2003, 59/241 of 22 December 2004, 60/227 of 23 December 2005, 61/208 of 20 December 2006, 63/225 of 19 December 2008 and 65/170 of 20 December 2010 on international migration and development, as well as its resolution 60/206 of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, its resolutions 62/156 of 18 December 2007 and 66/172 of 19 December 2011 on the protection of migrants and its resolution 62/270 of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and recalling also Commission on Population and Development resolution 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,[1]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and recalling further the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[3]

Recalling further its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and its outcome document, entitled "The future we want",[4]

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[5] and recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[6] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[7] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[7] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[8] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[9]

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[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5* (E/2006/25), chap. I, sect. B.

[2] Resolution 60/1.

[3] Resolution 65/1.

[4] Resolution 66/288, annex.

[5] Resolution 217 A (III).

[6] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

[8] Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

[9] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

Recalling the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[10] and reiterating the call to Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Convention,

Recalling also the importance of the Decent Work Agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the eight fundamental Conventions of that Organization and the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session, as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development,

Recalling further the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the 2006 high-level dialogue on international migration and development,[11] and taking note of the summary by the President of the Assembly of the informal thematic debate on international migration and development held on 19 May 2011,

Acknowledging that the 2006 high-level dialogue provided a useful opportunity to address constructively the issue of international migration and development and heightened awareness of the issue,

Acknowledging also the contribution of the informal thematic debate, held in 2011, to the discussions on international migration and development,

Recognizing the contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development to addressing the multidimensional nature of international migration and promoting balanced and comprehensive approaches,

Acknowledging the important and complex interrelationship between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits and challenges to the global community, and confirming the importance of including the matter in relevant debates and discussions held at the international level, including at the United Nations, in relation to development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[12]

2. *Decides* to hold a two-day high-level dialogue on international migration and development on 3 and 4 October 2013, after the general debate of the sixty eighth session of the General Assembly, at United Nations Headquarters;

3. *Also decides* that the organizational arrangements for the high-level dialogue shall be as follows:

(a) The overall theme of the high-level dialogue on international migration and development will be "Identifying concrete measures to strengthen coherence and cooperation at all levels, with a view to enhancing the benefits of international migration for migrants and countries alike and its important links to development, while reducing its negative implications";

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[10] Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.
[11] A/61/515.
[12] A/67/254.

(b) The high-level dialogue will consist of four plenary meetings and four interactive multi-stakeholder round tables:

(i) Round tables 1 and 2 will be held in the morning and afternoon of the first day of the high-level dialogue;

(ii) Round tables 3 and 4 will be held in the morning and afternoon of the second day of the high-level dialogue;

(iii) Summaries of the deliberations of the four round-table sessions will be presented orally by the Chairs of the round-table sessions during the concluding plenary meeting of the high-level dialogue;

(c) The themes for each of the four round tables will be as follows:

(i) Round table 1 will focus on assessing the effects of international migration on sustainable development and identifying relevant priorities in view of the preparation of the post-2015 development framework;

(ii) Round table 2 will focus on measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of all migrants, with particular reference to women and children, as well as to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and to ensure orderly, regular and safe migration;

(iii) Round table 3 will focus on strengthening partnerships and cooperation on international migration, mechanisms to effectively integrate migration into development policies and promoting coherence at all levels;

(iv) Round table 4 will focus on international and regional labour mobility and its impact on development;

(d) Each of the four round tables will be co-chaired by two representatives, to be appointed by the President of the General Assembly, with due regard for geographical balance, in consultation with regional groups;

4. *Further decides* that the participants in the high-level dialogue will participate in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

5. *Invites* Member States and observers to participate in the high-level dialogue at the highest possible level;

6. *Invites* the Holy See and the State of Palestine, in their capacity as observer States, and the European Union, in its capacity as observer, to participate in the high-level dialogue and its preparatory process;

7. *Invites* all relevant entities of the United Nations system and relevant special rapporteurs and representatives, as well as the International Organization for Migration and other relevant international organizations having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the General Assembly, to contribute to the preparation of and to participate in the high-level dialogue;

8. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of other relevant intergovernmental organizations and entities who may participate in the high-level dialogue, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical representation, and to submit the proposed list to Member States for their consideration in accordance with past practice;

9. *Also invites* the President of the General Assembly to draw up a list of representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council who may participate in the high-level dialogue and the one-day informal interactive hearings provided for in paragraph 11 below;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a note on the organization of work of the high-level dialogue;

11. *Decides* to hold one-day informal interactive hearings in 2013 with representatives of non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations and the private sector to be organized and presided over by the President of the General Assembly, and requests the President of the Assembly to prepare a summary of the hearings prior to the high-level dialogue in September 2013;

12. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, to draw up a list of representatives of other relevant non governmental organizations, academic institutions and the private sector who may participate in the high-level dialogue and the one-day informal interactive hearings, on the basis of recommendations by the Secretary-General in respect of their specific expertise and involvement in international migration and development issues, taking into account geographical representation; the list will be considered by the Member States on a non-objection basis no later than one month prior to the hearings provided for in paragraph 11 above;

13. *Decides* that representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and the private sector, one from each grouping having been selected during the informal interactive hearings, are to be included by the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, in the list of speakers for the plenary meetings of the high-level dialogue, time permitting, and also decides that the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with Member States, will determine the list of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, civil society organizations and private sector representatives that can participate in each of the round tables of the high-level dialogue, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical representation;

14. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, with the assistance of the Secretariat and with support from interested Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders, to organize, prior to the high-level dialogue, a panel discussion with a focus on its overall theme, complementary to and taking into account other preparatory initiatives relating to the high-level dialogue;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with inputs from the members of the Global Migration Group and other relevant entities, to prepare a comprehensive overview of studies and analyses on the multidimensional aspects of migration and development, including the effects of migration on economic and social development in developed and developing countries;

16. *Invites* the regional commissions and their subregional offices, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system, as well as the International Organization for Migration and the Council of the International Organization for Migration, to organize discussions to examine regional aspects of international migration and development and to provide inputs, in accordance with their respective mandates, to the preparatory process of the high-level dialogue;

17. *Invites* Member States, through appropriate regional consultative processes and, as appropriate, within other major initiatives in the field of international migration and development, including the Global Forum on Migration and Development, to contribute to the high-level dialogue;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", the sub-item entitled "International migration and development";

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.